the folio sheets of the geological map (1:25,000) of Prussia and the Thuringian states, with explanatory texts. Several sheets of the area north of Berlin may be cited. In the neighborhood of Oderberg (46th Lieferung), the Oder turns sharply from the ancient westward waterway along the glacial margin past the site of Hamburg to the North Sea, into its present northward course past the site of Stettin to the Baltic. Hereabouts are several looped moraines with uneven hills and hollows, holding many pools and ponds; the loops are nicely marked by boulder belts, which have long furnished material for road-making. Outside of the morainic loops (southwest), stretch outwashed sand plains, the barren 'upper sands,' with deep-lying ground water. Inside of the moraines come the rolling uplands of the ground moraine, with a fertile soil. Overlaid sands and silts are common here, the deposits of ice-margin lakes held in the loops during glacial retreat; the outlets of the lakes are frequently found in trenches through the morainic hills. Some of the larger existing lakes of the district remain in shallow basins, roughly central to the morainic loops.

South of the outwashed sand plains, the broad channel of the ancient waterway (the Thorn-Eberwalder channel, the northern of the three chief ice-margin waterways) is strewn with the 'valley sands.' Once as smooth as the bed of a large river may be, these sands are now trenched and terraced to moderate depths west of Oderberg, where they are traversed only by small streams; but they are largely swept away southeast of Oderberg, where the ice-margin river sank to a lower level when the northern outlet past Stettin was opened. A new, broad channel was eroded at the lower level, with great sweeping curves appropriate to the course of a large river; the channel bed now remains as a marshy alluvial plain on which the diminished Oder wanders. One of the great curves of the channel rounds a spur of drift uplands by Oderberg; the 'new Oder' is led through the narrow neck of the spur by an artificial canal, while the 'old Oder' still straggles around the spur.

Where the ancient waterway departed somewhat from the moraines, a low upland slopes southward to it from the morainic loops and their sand plains. The upland here is a gently rolling drift plain, traversed now and again by the sandy beds of larger or smaller streams that for a time came out from the ice on the north. A striking example of this kind is found near Kyritz (Lieferung, northwest of Berlin). The sandy stream bed was probably washed by sprawling currents in many braided channels, which acted partly as an aggrading agent, for the bed is hardly incised beneath the rolling drift plain. Later a narrow trench was cut through it, as if the ice-water had for a brief interval been changed from a turbid sand-bearing stream to a clear stream (perhaps the outflow of an ice-margin lake); the trench is now floored with peat, or occupied by long shallow lakes, as if it were barred here and there with inwashed alluvium.

The casual traveller often describes the north German lowlands as a 'flat and uninteresting country.' It is as meaningless to him as a cuneiform inscription would be; yet how significant its delicate details become when interpreted! To American students, the elaborate treatment of this remarkable field foreshadows what may in time be provided for us concerning the Illinois and other glacial lobes, whose general features only have now been sketched.

W. M. DAVIS.

MUSEUM REPORTS.

THE 'Annual Report of the Director' of the Carnegie Museum for the year ending March 31, 1901, was issued a short time ago, as well as the report on the 'Prize Essay Contest.' From the report we learn of the rapid progress of the institution particularly in the field of vertebrate paleontology, the explorations conducted last year by Mr. J. B. Hatcher having resulted in the acquisition of nearly 200 boxes of specimens, some of the more notable of which were described a short time ago in SCIENCE. As Mr. Hatcher again began field work in April, the present year will doubtless see other important accessions of fossils.

In zoology the announcement is made that the Museum has acquired a specimen of the almost extinct *Rhinoceros simus*, only four other ex-

amples of which are in existence. It is also announced that the Museum last year purchased the Ulke collection of Coleoptera. Among other illustrations the report contains a fine view of a remarkable lot of 'cannon-ball' concretions in Laramie sandstone.

It is announced that no less than 843 scholars participated in the Prize Essay Contest, the subject being 'An Afternoon at the Carnegie Museum.' The successful essay is printed in full and the names and addresses of the other contestants are given.

THE Annual Report of the President of the American Museum of Natural History for the year 1900 is also at hand. The most evident progress has been made in arranging the extensive anthropological collections of the Museum, and the new West Hall, devoted to the American Indian and Eskimo, was opened on November 1, 1900.

No less than seven expeditions were sent out during the year to conduct ethnological and archeological researches, including one to Siberia and another to the vicinity of Lake Titicaca. This extended work was made possible through the liberality of friends of the Museum.

The Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, which completed its first decade in May of this year, comprises in its collections 8,534 specimens of fossil mammals and about 4,000 of reptiles. The most important accessions during 1900 were a complete skeleton of the herbivorous dinosaur, *Thespesius*, and one of a carnivorous dinosaur, several partial skeletons of horses from Texas, and a skull of elephant.

The attendance during the year was 523,522, an increase of a little more than 65,000 over the previous year. It is announced that the income from the endowment fund is now $20,280, and while this is gratifying it is to be wished that it were ten times as great. For the first time in many years the report contains no illustrations, but this is more than compensated for by the publication of the *Museum Journal*, which chronicles the current progress of the institution.

F. A. L.

*THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.**

THE Twenty-Fourth General Meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held in the High-School building, on the block bounded by Nineteenth, Stout, Twentieth and California Streets, Denver, Colorado, Monday and Tuesday, August 26 and 27, 1901.

The same arrangements as heretofore will prevail between Section C of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Chemical Society. Monday and Tuesday of the Association week will be devoted mainly to the sessions of the American Chemical Society, and the remainder of the week to those of Section C. A few minutes will be given to Section C for organization on Monday morning, and in the afternoon the American Chemical Society will adjourn in time to afford the opportunity of listening to the address of the Vice-President of Section C.

The first session of the Society will convene on Monday morning, August 26, immediately after the organization of Section C of the A. A. A. S., probably at about 11.30 A. M.

The afternoon session will be called to order at 1.30 P. M , and will be adjourned in time to listen to the address of Vice-President Long before Section C.

At the close of Vice-President Long's address, a meeting of the Council and Directors of the American Chemical Society will be held at some convenient place to be announced.

The hour for the morning and afternoon sessions of the Society on Tuesday will be announced on the program. Other arrangements for the meeting will also appear in the official program, or be announced at the sessions of the Society.

Hotel headquarters for the meeting will be at the Brown Palace Hotel, Seventeenth and Tremont Streets. Rates: American plan, $3.00 to $5.00 per day; European plan, $1.50 up. This hotel is within five minutes' walk of the Denver High School Building, and is reached from the Union Depot by the Seventeenth Street electric car line.

The following is a list of other hotels and boarding houses easily accessible to the Denver High School:

* Announcement of the secretary.